

THE RED CLOUD CHIEF.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY.

RED CLOUD.

Webster County, Neb.

TERMS:

Two Dollars a Year, in Advance.

THE DEACON'S CONVERSION.

BY WILL M. CARLETON.

Deacon Dodge must walk tonight; He has no time to wait or delay; He is expected early and bright, By the widow across the valley.

Old enough, say people, to be, Long ago to have left such folly; But as a man as a man, he is, And as a man as a man, he is.

Gay and beaming, good and kind, Lending with forty winters only, He is a light to his fellow men, Making his downward steps less lonely.

Each in the same opinion clad, Each the same good future seeing, They in the main have seldom had, Even the sport of disagreeing.

But as the Deacon reads his way, He reads the life of dark old days, When he learned his first discipline, When he learned his first discipline.

Talking concerning life and death, And the importance of conversion, He was telling of his own life, Of his own life and of his own.

And, as in an evil hour, Of the life of the Deacon, He was telling of his own life, Of his own life and of his own.

But he argued, and he argued, Till he argued, and he argued, Till he argued, and he argued, Till he argued, and he argued.

Then the widow had heard, and said, Till he argued, and he argued, Till he argued, and he argued, Till he argued, and he argued.

So the Deacon, as he walks on, Drives that such ideas have got her; For he has, in the long years gone, Kept his head above the water.

And he feels that the rich reward, Of the life of the Deacon, He was telling of his own life, Of his own life and of his own.

But, most stubborn of all, his will, He was telling of his own life, Of his own life and of his own.

Now from a bridge, where lazily flows, Water full six feet below him, He is a plank, and he is a plank, And for a moment the waves over flow him.

But to the widow upon the shore, Reaches a good stout stick into him; And he, in a minute, is a plank, And for a moment the waves over flow him.

Quick she led him into her home, Dried him by every good exertion, And then remarked to him, my son, That he was a convert to immersion.

And full many a marital dream, And full many a marital dream, And full many a marital dream, And full many a marital dream.

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\$2.00 PER ANNUM.

VOL. I.

Devoted to the Interests of Southwest Nebraska.

C. L. MATHER, Publisher.

RED CLOUD, WEBSTER CO., NEB., THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 1874.

NO. 43.

was just like most anybody else you meet. When I engaged under him, of course I didn't know anything about his villainy. How could I? He wasn't labeled.

And now for the factory itself. It was a somewhat dilapidated fireproof brick concern. Engine in cellar (most every manufacturer had his own power there, instead of just belting on to the one big engine of the block, as they do now); office and samples, first floor; clipping and folding machines, second floor; girls nesting, sorting and trimming on the third floor; stock of all sorts on the fourth and fifth. We used to turn out an immense deal of work with very few hands. There were about twenty-five or so girls, the manager, his clerk and office-boy, a man to hoist and do odd jobs, the woman, and myself. Except when stock was taken in, or work sent out, there was nobody else in the building.

I generally kept to my own business, and stayed down in the cellar, nursing the old engine. She sullenly needed it, being as rickety and patched up a contrivance as one cares to stay alongside of. She always reminded me of some old people you see, who are always in need of a pectoral for a cough, or a liniment for rheumatism, or something or other. This engine of mine was in such a state that she always wanted casing somewhere, a rivet here, a plug there, new stuffing, more felting, or a band around the whole boiler. From boiler to fly wheel she was rickety, rickety. But there was no present danger to be apprehended—all was safe enough with proper care and attention. There was the rib, I had to exercise the same proper care and attention all the time. But if I was so occupied, I could not help meeting the girls now and then in the passage-way. Most of them were of the common sort—coarse, vulgar creatures, that I never could abide. But there was one little pale-faced girl I took to, very often I found time to visit them all of an evening. I hadn't said a word of love to her yet, but was waiting till my wages were increased enough to enable me to keep a home of my own, and then ask her to fill it. Of her state of feeling toward me I knew nothing, except that she looked upon me and trusted me as a brother.

One thing used to rile me, though, and that was the sneaking sort of liking that Harkness seemed to have for her; and, worse, he showed it plainly enough by the way he persecuted her with his odd remarks. Whenever I could, without making a fuss, I helped them along a little. And when we got well acquainted, I used to hurry through my work so as to be able to see her home every day after six o'clock. Sometimes, too, we used to go to concerts and lectures together, and very often I found time to visit them all of an evening. I hadn't said a word of love to her yet, but was waiting till my wages were increased enough to enable me to keep a home of my own, and then ask her to fill it. Of her state of feeling toward me I knew nothing, except that she looked upon me and trusted me as a brother.

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composure, and said, as cool as you please:

"Ah! you're late, Bill. What's wrong to-day? Hope you won't blow up for a week or so yet. We're doing a jacking business, Bill. I think I see him now 'winking his hands with invisible soap in imperceptible water.' With that self-satisfied, hypocritical leer on his face." "Just sent a load of fine boxes down to the Winged Arrow. She sails to-morrow, so we had to ship in a hurry. Fine boxes; and a beautiful vessel. Bill. Good night to you."

"Good night, sir," said I, and left.

As I went up the street, another day passed, driven toward the factory. I had the curiosity to turn and watch to see whether it, too, stopped there. It did, and when I reached the corner of Broadway, I stopped and looked back once more. There, in the darkening twilight, the same process of hurried loading was being repeated. It seemed to be all right. Harkness was there, but, somehow, I wasn't quite satisfied. Trimming machines are not fine assortment of gilded boxes, by any manner of means, you know. And I knew it too, though, very likely, old Harkness didn't give me credit for being so well posted. Well, if I couldn't settle the question, the next best thing was to give it up. And give it up I did.

Next morning I went over, as usual, to the factory. Jim, the stoker, opened the doors always, as he had to be there to tend to the fires, which we banked every night. I expected to see Jim. Harkness. This time it was he who came up through the cellar door and I through the factory. And a hundred and one things happened. Now it was my turn to be surprised. He was intensely pale, and seemed much agitated. With a strong effort of the will he strove to conceal his strange manner. He endeavored to speak calmly, and half succeeded.

"Bill," said he, "Jim has tended to the engine, it's all right; come outside with me—I want to talk to you."

He turned to the cellar door and shouted:

"Jim, come up, come up at once. Run over to Mr. Brent's private house—you know where that is—and tell him not to discount that bill to-day. Be quick."

Yes, sir, coming," sang out Jim, leisurely.

Suddenly he tore up the cellar steps. His face was ten shades paler than Harkness', an expression of horror was fixed on his features—an expression of agony and fear that I shall never forget. It haunted me still. It will stay by me till my dying day. Poor fellow, he's one, too, since then.

Jim hardly stopped in his wild flight, as he hoarsely whispered, rather than cried:

"Hundred and ten on the steam gauge! Safety valve clogged!! Run for your lives!!!"

I took in the situation at once. Terrible danger was at hand. The old boiler was registered at eighty pounds to the square inch, but we never dared run higher than thirty. And a hundred and ten? We were standing directly over it, and while I hesitated, the pressure must be steadily rising. It flashed upon me that there might be no more danger in jumping down and pressing the safety valve than in running away, and in spite of the awful panic, I had a sudden access of courage.

I looked down from the doorway upon the trembling, panting, struggling steam demon beneath. The safety valve apparatus was in plain sight.

From the end of the lever hung several huge links of chain.

I don't think I'm a coward—usually, at least, I know I am not. But this evidence of villainy took me all aback. I staggered and clung feebly to the lintel for support. The words seemed forced out of me, and not uttered with my volition:

"You scoundrel. You'd steal your insurance, would you?"

A sudden vindictive push sent me headlong. As I fell I heard a demonic laugh.

"Peach if you want to!"

And the door swung to with a click of the spring lock.

At the foot of the steps an open trap, the sub-cellar hatch, lay open. The so great that I had time to notice all this. Would it hurt me much when I struck? Would it kill me outright? And that was all.

When I came to, I found myself in a well-remembered room. Bessie, my Bessie now, hung tenderly over me, waiting for the light of recognition to appear in my fevered eye.

All was soon told. The boiler must have burst the very instant I struck. Harkness was killed by a flying piece of machinery; the would-be-murderer had exchanged places with his victim, for I straggled as it were, was dug out of the ruins alive, and got out with only a broken arm. God forgive him.

Bessie insists that if it hadn't been for the accident, I should never have "spoken out." So, after all, it was a blessing in disguise.

Royal Incomes.

The following is the list of royal incomes given in the German *Dahleim Kalender* for 1874: The Emperor of Russia, 8,250,000 thalers; the Sultan of Turkey, 6,000,000 thalers; the Emperor of Germany, 5,500,000; the Emperor of Austria, 4,500,000; the King of Italy, 2,500,000 thalers; the Queen of England, 2,500,000 thalers. In proportion to the national income of these countries, the Queen of England receives the lowest civil list—namely, 7.10ths per cent.; the Sultan receives the highest, 11 per cent. The second chamber of Saxony has fixed 950,000 thalers the civil list of King Albert. A thaler is equal to about seventy cents of United States money.

FRUITERS.—Take bonnet, wild cherry bark and poplar bark; make an infusion by adding a quart of warm water; let it cool and drink when thirsty. This is a certain cure for fever and ague. I received it from an Indian, and found it to be the master of ague.—H. C. in *Country Gentleman*.

The "Door Test" and Character.

A correspondent of the *Scientific American* gives the following novel manner for measuring men's characters:

During the last ten years, in the winter season, according to our daily record, we have noticed the manner in which one thousand persons who called for work have opened, shut, or not shut, our store door; this you may say is a futile and useless undertaking, but we entertain a very different opinion. What are the facts and what are the deductions?

1. Out of 1,000 persons recorded, 334 opened the door and shut it carefully when they came in and when they went out, without much noise.

2. Two hundred and twenty opened it in a hurry, and made an attempt to shut it but did not, merely pulled it to when they went out.

3. Three hundred and two did not attempt to shut it at all, either on coming in or going out.

4. Ninety-six left it open when they came in, and when reminded of the fact, made ample apology and shut it when they went out.

5. One hundred and two opened it in a great hurry, and then slammed it to violently, but left it open when they went out.

6. Twenty came in with "How do you do, sir?" or "Good morning," or "Good evening, sir," and all these went through the operation of wiping their feet on the mat, but did not shut the door when they came in nor when they went out.

DEDUCTIONS.—The correspondent goes on to say that he has employed men out of all the above classes, and during that time he has had an opportunity of judging of their merits, etc.

The first class, of 335, were those who knew their trade, and commenced and finished their work in a methodical manner, were quiet, and had little to say in their working hours, and were well approved by those for whom they did the work. They were punctual to time, and left nothing undone which they were ordered to do. They did not complain about trifles, and in all respects they were reliable men, and were kind and obliging in their general conduct.

It should be appreciated, in this connection, that the simple act of closing a door may combine a large number of qualities, and so be really a manifestation of a man's character. The deduction of the 335 just gives indicates that they possessed well-balanced temperaments, with large cautiousness, a probative, constructive, large perceptive faculties, with a good degree of firmness, benevolence, human nature, and comparison, while the black-headed and the white-headed men, who were not so punctual, and who were not so kind and obliging, were of a different class.

Alcohol as Food.

A popular medical writer makes the following practical points:

Liquor fattens; whisky is a good tonic; bitters aid digestion. These are statements made every day with considerable confidence, and in a manner well calculated to impose on a certain class of minds; hence it is well that the friends of true temperance should have at hand the weapons of their warfare against the liquor traffic. If alcohol is food, why not give it to our beef cattle, our turkeys, and our horses, a good dram of it at night and morning?

If whisky is a good tonic, that is, gives a good appetite, why is it that so many whisky-drinkers, the men who are always full and never empty, eat so little, and, on the contrary, almost live by drink? Give them plenty of whisky, and they eat nothing else but leisure to drink it.

If "bitters" aid digestion, why is it that those who take them all the time are never well?

But suppose that in some cases spirits do fatten, it is a watery fat; gives no strength, but increases the impurity of work, and the susceptibility to all prevalent diseases. In cholera and all epidemics the liquor-drinkers are the first to die.

If liquor fattens, why is it that we see so many spindly-shanked drunkards in the street, and so many long, lean, and lean, with so little flesh on their bones that the skin seems almost to cling to them, and so tottering are they in their step that the wind is ready to blow them away at any moment, and so shaky do they become in the end, that it requires all the strength and steadiness of both hands to carry a glass of grog in their lips.—*Exchange*.

Anticipating Fate.

Opinions in favor of cremation are gaining ground in Zurich. The discussion of the question is forced upon the citizens by the peculiar fact that some tombs have been opened in which interments took place when the cemetery was established in 1848, and the remains, instead of being decomposed, present the appearance of almost complete preservation. The cemetery is now nearly filled. A meeting is to be held to discuss the subject. A Leipzig professor has designed a furnace specially for the purpose of cremation, which will do the work efficiently in twenty minutes at the outside. The body is to be placed in an upright position inside of a fire-proof receptacle, through which artificially heated air is forced in a current, carrying all the noxious gases up a chimney, and leaving after the process a small residue only of snow white ashes. The cost at which the furnace can be constructed is £2,250. The cost of cremation for each body will not exceed nine shillings.

By means of the drill wheat is sown regularly and all the same depth. If the seed is good there need be no allowance made for waste as in sowing by hand. One bushel and a peck per acre is plenty, and if the grains be small, a bushel. It is planted regularly and at a proper depth, and it has an equal chance to grow and to fasten its roots firmly in the soil. By drilling, fertilizers can also be sown at the same time.

Comb Manufacture.

One of the greatest comb manufacturing in the world is in Aberdeen, Scotland. In this establishment there are an immense number of furnaces for preparing horns and tortoise-shells for combs, and between one and two hundred iron screw presses are constantly employed in stamping them. Steam-power is employed to cut the combs; the operation being performed by this means with great efficiency. The coarse combs are stamped or cut out, two being cut in a place at one time by ingenious machinery. The fine dressing combs and all small tooth combs are cut by fine circular saws, some so fine as to cut forty teeth in the space of one inch, and they revolve thousands of times in a minute. There are about two thousand varieties of combs made, and the aggregate number produced, of all these different sorts of combs, is about nine millions annually. The annual consumption of ox horns, hinds, tortoise-shell and buffalo horn, is, of course, prodigious; and the waste, consisting of horn shavings and parings of horns, amounts to hundreds of tons in a year, and this becomes a valuable material in the manufacture of prussiate of potash, etc.

All Sorts.

SIR SAMUEL BAKER'S African expedition cost the Khedive of Egypt over \$400,000.

THREE of the nine Judges of the United States Supreme Court are natives of Connecticut.

The last day that Henry Clay ever sat in the Senate was Charles Sumner's first day in the Senate.

GREAT BRITAIN and Ireland are about as large as New Mexico, but not as large as Iowa and Nebraska.

It is said that Donald McKay and his band of Warm Spring Indians, who did such valuable service during the Modoc war, are coming East on an exhibition tour.

It has been decided in Delaware that a man is not necessarily drunk because he tries to make a front door at midnight with the butt end of his tobacco box.

A CALIFORNIA farmer, according to a rural press, cut sixty bushels of hay from sixteen acres of lucerne, pastured fifty calves three months, and harvested fifty bushels of seed.

A FEMALE graduate of the Medical Department of Iowa University has taken the first prize for the best performed dissection in surgical anatomy, in a class consisting of twenty-four young men and one other young woman.

A "FASHIONABLE" christening party in New York was postponed last week in consequence of the non-arrival of a steamer from Europe having on board the lace dress (made to order) in which the baby was to have appeared. The clergyman engaged was disgusted.

The gravity of the situation in India is shown by the fact that a loan of \$50,000,000 is announced as about to be put upon the market for the relief of the famine. It is said that the necessities of the suffering natives are such as to require immediately the sum of \$15,000,000.

A few days ago a New Orleans horse railroad company sunk \$7,000 counter into the Mississippi river, the receipts of one year. The counterfinging of these coins is carried on so extensively in New Orleans that the *Picayune* estimates that 1,000 people daily pay their fares on the horse railroad with bogus coin.

FRANCE pays her ambassadors fairly. Her new minister to London, the Duc de la Rochefoucauld-Bisaccia, gets \$40,000 a year, the highest sum paid to any diplomatist except the ambassador to St. Petersburg, who receives \$50,000. The ambassador at Vienna receives \$34,000; the one at Berlin, \$28,000.

On the announcement of the death of ex-President Fillmore, in the United States Senate, Senator Sherman asked if there was a precedent for adjournment. Senator Anthony replied that Congress adjourned upon the death of General Washington, and it was upon that day that the phrase, "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen" was uttered.

SENATOR SUMNER never kept a carriage during his long residence in Washington, but generally walked on fine days, and patronized the horse cars in unfavorable weather. He sometimes expressed his wish to be the possessor of horses and a carriage, but would add: "I cannot afford it. I either must give up buying books and keep a carriage, or forego the carriage and keep myself posted in literature."

A MISUNDERSTANDING.

A case of misunderstanding occurred up in the country last week. Riding up to a hotel in Courtland county, we saw the big, smart landlord, with his boys, smoking short pipes on the balcony, while his wife was sweeping around the chairs.

"Hello! Do you keep this hotel?"

"No, sir, I reckon not; this tavern keeps me."

"I mean are you master here?"

"Well, sometimes I am (poking at the old lady's broom), but I guess the boys and I run the stable; take your horse."

"Got any thing to drink around here?"

"Yes; every thing drinks around here."

"Any ales?"

"Tough of the rheumatiz myself; folks generally healthy, though."

"I mean have you any porter?"

"Yes; John's our porter. Hold his horse, John."

"I mean any porter to drink."

"Porter to drink? Why, John can drink, and if he can't drink enough, I kin whip a right smart 'licker myself."

"Phew! stupid! have I got to come down and see myself?"

"You kin come down, Shaw Stupid, and see yourself, if you want to; there's a good looking-glass in the bar-room."

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Don't Spoil a Sneeze.

The Springfield (Mass.) *Republican* says: "One may be pardoned for sneezing under any circumstances, in view of the experience of a woman from this city in Westfield, recently. Being in company, and attempting to suppress a sneeze, she felt a queer sensation in the left side of her face, which soon began swelling and drawing out of shape. A physician was called, but by the time he arrived her mouth and the left side of her face had become drawn up, disfiguring her so that her most intimate friends could scarcely recognize her features, while she found it impossible to close her left eye. The physicians say it is a kind of paralysis, caused by the great effort she made in suppressing the sneeze, and give but faint hopes that her features will ever resume their natural appearance. She is now in this city seeking medical advice."

The patentee of the punch now used by the passenger railroad companies makes over \$50,000 per annum; he receives a royalty of twenty cents a day for each punch in use.

Brain Weight of Different Races.

An eminent German professor once assumed that, as a certain size and mass of brain is essential for the exercise of the mental faculties, therefore all the human race must be furnished with an equal amount of brains. This truly Teutonic theory has since, however, been effectually dissipated. An elaborate paper was read very long ago before the Royal Society of England, in which the existing evidence as to the weight of brain among different nations was analyzed. The average brain weight for the English is stated to be 47.50 ounces; for the French, 44.58; for the Germans, 42.83; but there are discrepancies in the results of different observers, some giving a greater average than this to the Germans. The Russians, Lapas, Swedes, Finns, and Dutch come into the category with the English. Among the Asiatic races, the Vedas of Ceylon and the Hindus give a mean of over 42.11 ounces. The skulls of Mussulmans afford a slightly increased average of brain weight over those of the Hindoos. Two facts, however, about the mind of the uneducated aboriginal races of India—show a brain weight of only 37.57 ounces. The general average of the Asiatic table shows a diminution of more than two ounces when compared with Europeans. The general mean of African races is less than that of European races, although there are great differences; the Caffres rising high, and the Bushman sinking low in the scale. The average of the whole of the aboriginal American races reaches 47.73 ounces, which is 2.14 ounces less than that of the European races. The Australian races show a brain weight one-ninth less than that of the general average of Europeans. The Malays and others of the Oceanic races, who migrated boldly, for commercial purposes, over the North and South Pacific Ocean, and occupy the islands, show a tolerably high average of brain weight, averaging at this section, we return in some measure to the large brain weight of Europeans.

A Dog Carries the Mail once a Week.

Mr. J. Prosser, says a Minnesota paper, lives at Lake of Two Woods, Dakota, twelve miles west of the Minnesota line. Several settlers live near him, and, as they have no regular mail service, letters and papers are carried between the Two Woods settlement and "Captain Herriek's," at the State line, by private enterprise. This service has for some time been performed by a dog belonging to Mr. Prosser. The mail is placed in a small sack, and tied about the dog's neck, when he is told to "go," and he goes—never once having failed to reach his destination without delay. Captain Herriek overhauls the mail, gives the shaggy mail carrier a good dinner, and places the Two Woods mail about his neck, when he is again away on the return trip. There is no more faithful carrier in Uncle Sam's service than "Curley" has proved himself to be. While performing his duty it is impossible for man or beast approach him.

Captain Herriek once met him on the road and endeavored to relieve him of his burden, but Curley was so full of spirit, that he never once halting until he had arrived at the Captain's own door. One day last week Mr. Prosser came to Mar-shall with a load of furs, and brought Curley with him. We were favored with a call from the noble animal and his master, and, with several others, listened to the interesting story of his adventures. Curley is a fine-looking dog, rather larger than medium size, has long, curly hair, a well-shaped head, a good-natured eye, and is of the breed commonly called spaniels. He was much pleased at receiving so much attention, and seemed to understand all that was being said about him.

Skin Grafting.